

What is the PCGCA

It is you!

The Philadelphia Committee of the Garden Club of America is a local Philadelphia group, consisting of the ten GCA clubs located here. It was begun in 1964, and one of its originators was a Weeder – Ms. Lewis, I believe. The PCGCA (or Philadelphia Committee, as some prefer) was created so that the garden clubs could have more of an impact than any one of its clubs. The group continues to thrive, 55 years later, because we support it. There are many facets to the work of the PCGCA, but I will highlight three of them:

1. The Fertilizer Fund. This annual appeal to all members of the ten clubs, will be distributed today. Last year, over \$46,000 was given to small projects in horticulture within the City of Philadelphia – groups that cannot find easy funding elsewhere. They fall under grants given for education, food, historic preservation, and community enrichment – and all are horticultural in nature – even if it is historic preservation, the grant will be toward planting. Today, we are distributing the appeal letter for the Fertilizer Fund. We would like to have a contribution, no matter how large or small, from every single Weeder. (not that we are competitive – but last year we were #1 in amount given, and #2 in participation). Many of you have already donated, as there was an opportunity to contribute with your dues payment. I have the list, if you have forgotten – but giving twice is what made us win last year. If you have a checkbook, the easiest thing is to fill it out right now and hand it to me – saving the stamp. If not, you will hear about this opportunity all fall, as the campaign goes through January. Please realize the importance of every Weeder fulfilling this request to give.
2. The second PCGCA project is the Joint Meeting. Your invitation is here today. On Wednesday, November 6, you are invited to Philadelphia Country Club to hear Danielle DiLeo Kim, Director of USA 250 – which honors the 250 year of our nation's founding (in 2026). Danielle is an architect and urban designer, and among other things has established a master plan for Philadelphia, including a large effort toward the lower Schuylkill River. She will be a wonderful speaker, and there is always a good group of Weeders in attendance – be sure you are among them!
3. The Third project of the PCGCA is the Magnolia Tribute Garden, the small picket park in Philadelphia which has been given to the City by the GCA and maintained by the PCGCA since the 1960's. This park also has Weeder history, as member Marion Rosengarten (of Chanticleer) and her sister conceived of the idea of this gift to the city. Each club takes a turn – at a workday – ours is in spring – and thus we maintain a park that would not otherwise have enough National Park manpower to see it looking as nice as it does. A large renovation was funded by the PCGCA three years ago, and GCA president, Independence National Historical Park chair were among those honoring the occasion, complete with tea at the Powel House, just as was done at the original dedication.

Please participate in all three of these opportunities to help the PCGCA complete its mission. We are a great force if we work together, and we need each of you to donate to the Fertilizer Fund, attend the Joint meeting in November, and support the Magnolia Tribute Garden by working there.

4th Attend a meeting 2nd Wed - in your book